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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 127595
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SUBJECT:POSSIBLE TURKISH STATEMENT ON CYPRUS

1. BELOW IS DEPARTMENT'S DRAFT OF POSSIBLE STATEMENT TO BE ISSUED BY TURKISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON, WHICH YOU SHOULD PASS TO GOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS SEPTEL:

2. BEGIN TEXT: IN RESPONSE TO MANY REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION AND ELABORATION OF THE POSITION OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY AND OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE CYPRUS ISSUE, THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY WISHES TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT.
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PAGE 02 STATE 127595

3. THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY AND THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT BELIEVE THAT THE TIME HAS COME FOR SUSTAINED, INTENSIVE GOOD-FAITH NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES WITH A VIEW TO REACHING A JUST, LASTING AND MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENT ON CYPRUS. WITH THIS GOAL IN MIND, TURKISH CYPRIOT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENTED

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

TO SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM ON APRIL 13, 1978, A DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSALS THAT THE TURKISH SIDE IS PREPARED TO PUT ON THE TABLE ONCE THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS ARE RECONVENED. THESE PROPOSALS, IT SHOULD BE STRESSED, REPRESENT ONLY A STARTING-POINT FOR DISCUSSIONS AND SHOULD UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES BE VIEWED AS FINAL OR RIGID POSITIONS. THE

TURKISH SIDE HAS MADE A COMMITMENT TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO ENGAGE IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH AN OPEN MIND AND IN A SPIRIT OF COMPROMISE AND FLEXIBILITY. WE ARE PREPARED, IN SHORT, FOR A GENUINE AND PRODUCTIVE DIALOGUE. IT IS THE BELIEF OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY AND OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT THAT INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY RESUMED.

4. IT IS THE TURKISH BELIEF THAT THE GUIDELINES AGREED UPON BY ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS AND RAUF DENKTASH AT THEIR MEETING IN FEBRUARY 1977 CONSTITUTE THE ESSENTIAL FRAMEWORK FOR A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT. CYPRUS MUST BE A SOVEREIGN, INDEPENDENT, NON-ALIGNED, BIZONAL FEDERAL STATE, IN WHICH EACH COMMUNITY WILL RETAIN A SIGNIFICANT DEGREE OF AUTONOMY OVER ITS OWN LOCAL AFFAIRS. IN ADDITION TO ESTABLISHING GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS, THE FUTURE CONSTITUTION MUST PROVIDE FULL AND SATISFACTORY SAFEGUARDS FOR THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUAL CYPRIOTS. THE TURKISH SIDE IS PREPARED TO CONFIDENTIAL

WITHDRAW FROM A SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF THE TERRITORY IT NOW ADMINISTERS, ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ECONOMIC VIABILITY AND THE CHARACTER OF THE LOCAL POPULATION WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN DETERMINING THE FUTURE BIZONAL STRUCTURE.

5. IT IS THE LONGSTANDING POSITION OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT THAT UPON CONCLUSION OF A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT ALL TURKISH MILITARY FORCES WILL BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE ISLAND EXCEPT THOSE WHOSE CONTINUED PRESENCE MAY BE AUTHORIZED UNDER THE TERMS OF THE SETTLEMENT. THIS POSITION IS HEREBY REAFFIRMED. SINCE 1975 THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY WITHDRAWN SOME 15,000 TROOPS FROM CYPRUS, AND IT IS PREPARED TO MAKE FURTHER SUCH REDUCTIONS AS THE INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS PROGRESS.

6. AS A FURTHER DEMONSTRATION OF THE FORTHCOMING APPROACH OF THE TURKISH SIDE, WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO ANNOUNCE THAT IT IS THE TURKISH POSITION THAT, AS SOON AS NEGOTIATIONS RECONVENE, GREEK CYPRIOT INHABITANTS OF THE CITY OF VAROSHA SHOULD COMMENCE RETURNING TO THEIR HOMES AND BUSINESSES. WE BELIEVE THAT UP TO 35,000 GREEK CYPRIOTS CAN PROBABLY

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

BE ACCOMMODATED IN VAROSHA. THE TURKISH SIDE IS PREPARED TO GIVE ASSURANCES THAT THIS RETURN WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED UNDER CONDITIONS THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WOULD REGARD AS EMINENTLY FAIR AND REASONABLE, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN CYPRUS AND THE LEGITIMATE SECURITY CONCERNS AND THE DESIRES OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT AND THE GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES. AS FAR AS THE

LONG-TERM STATUS OF VAROSHA IS CONCERNED, THE TURKISH SIDE IS FULLY PREPARED TO DISCUSS ALTERNATIVE FORMULAE ONCE THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS ARE RESUMED. IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE IN BONN ON MAY 11, PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT STRESSED THAT THE FUTURE POLITICAL FRAMEWORK OF VAROSHA WAS OPEN TO NEGOTIATION.
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7. IN ORDER TO BE JUST AND LASTING, A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT MUST RESPECT THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS AND NEEDS OF DISPLACED PERSONS ON THE ISLAND. THE TURKISH SIDE WILL COME TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE FULLY PREPARED TO REACH A GENEROUS AND MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF THE QUESTION OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, SETTLEMENT, AND OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY.

8. THE TURKISH SIDE IS ALSO EAGER TO DISCUSS WITH THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE OTHER PRACTICAL STEPS TO HEAL THE WOUNDS OF THE PAST. IN THIS CONNECTION, DISCUSSIONS COULD BE INITIATED UNDER U.N. AUSPICES ON REOPENING NICOSIA AIRPORT, PROVIDING, PERHAPS, FOR A TEMPORARY U.N. ROLE IN ITS ADMINISTRATION. THE TURKISH SIDE IS ALSO PREPARED TO RESUME AT ANY TIME THE NEGOTIATIONS ON FORMATION OF A MISSING PERSONS COMMITTEE THAT CAME SO CLOSE TO SUCCESS LATE LAST YEAR. IT WOULD ALSO BE PRODUCTIVE TO DISCUSS FUTURE COOPERATIVE EFFORTS IN THE ECONOMIC AND TRANSPORTATION AREAS, SUCH AS THE POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION OF A PIPELINE TO BRING WATER FROM THE TURKISH MAINLAND TO CYPRUS FOR USE BY BOTH GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS.

9. IT IS THE TURKISH VIEW THAT THE RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS ON A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT AND ON RELATED ISSUES SHOULD NOT BE DEPENDENT ON EXTRANEOUS FACTORS, BUT SHOULD COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY. THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY STANDS READY TO MEET AT ANY TIME WITH THE GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY TO WORK IN GOOD FAITH TO REACH A SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. VANCE

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